

Law Librarians Association of Wisconsin

A Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries

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## President's Message

Jenny Zook, University of Wisconsin Law Library



## Shhh? Librarians Make Some Noise

What a year to be President of LLAW, perhaps what a year to be leader of anything from anywhere. In Wisconsin history, 2011 is turning out to be the

year of the Budget Repair Bill, repair being an ironic choice for legislation that has torn this state apart.

In ordinary circumstances state budget bills have the appeal of a pile of dirty laundry, and legislators are left in relative peace to wash, fold and crunch numbers while working their accounting magic, but not this year. This bill has pulled teachers, nurses, students, teaching assistants, firefighters, postal clerks, doctors, farmers in tractors, people with disabilities, child care workers, children, and even dogs together to form a unified ring around the state Capitol.

Suddenly, ordinary people have decided it's a good day to walk around the square singing, "This land is my land; this land is your land," to the dismay of those who work in the Capitol. Our legislators are not big fans of folk songs, I guess. Me, I was raised on folk songs, so, I'm cool.

And the music is spreading. Just this morning, my daughters sang, "We are the World," while dressing for school. Madison the musical, coming to a town near you!

Like many other librarians, I've done my share of protest marching on the Capitol, I have also:

- High-fived dozens of firefighters
- Hugged an elementary school principal
- Eaten pizza paid for by strangers from across the country
- Passed by Jesse Jackson arm in arm with my congresswoman
- Attended a Law School Forum on the State Budget that was so packed that people sat on the floor and filled an overflow room. You would have thought we were hosting rock stars.
- Explained state politics to my nine year olds. They think government would improve if I were president. Interesting, since they don't actually listen to me...

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LAYOUT: Cook & Franke, SC

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### **Shhh? Librarians Make Some Noise**

(Continued from front page)

- Laughed at a lot of witty protest signs
- Thanked a lot of police officers for their service
- Ran into a college chum, her daughter, and her poodle, on State Street. The dog wore a protest sign, "Poodles for the People." A paw raised in protest. Lots of protesting pets on the square. But then, this budget affects everyone.

None of the things I listed is in the normal course of a day for me. I don't believe that librarians have a history of protest marches, although we've been strong advocates for public services and spoken at many congressional hearings. Still, librarians are not known for making noise. We are, however, totally into signage, so there is that.

Yet, as library budgets have been slashed, 10%, 30%, and for some libraries, completely defunded, librarians are becoming more vocal. I think they have to be, as there is an urgent need for advocacy and outreach. The public needs to know what budget cuts mean in terms of the services they depend on and there is an urgent need for advocacy and outreach.

Some of those services that librarians provide are a direct result of this recession. For example, I know that as unemployment swelled during the Great Recession, public libraries stepped up to increase services directed toward career counseling and placement. Libraries provided Internet access for those who needed it and offered resume building classes and educational resources. These libraries are not just circulating books on "how to find a job" or collecting want ads. They have actively sought out ways for job seekers and employers to connect with each other.

Libraries also provided a respite from the stress this recession has heaped on families. More, not less has been demanded of library systems on fewer dollars.

So, although I recognize that special and academic libraries may feel that they are not directly affected by this crisis in public funding, I would say it will be at our own peril if we allow publically funded institutions to fail during an economic downturn. There are things we can do to support libraries in our community. Certainly, marketing and library advocacy are essential, and we will have to become more vocal as we advertise our services.

I am especially proud of our Library Institute Day Committee for earning the AALL Professional Development award this year. This well-deserved award could not come at a better time for LLAW. It shows Wisconsin and our neighboring states what LLAW has to offer the community.

So, thank you to the committee chairs, Diane Duffy and Beverly Butula, and the committee, Amy Bingenheimer, Mary Koshollek, Julie Norton, Anthony Chan, Carol Schmitt, Emily Koss, Jamie Kroening, and Candace Hall Slaminski. Your hard work made the Institute Day a great success.

Good work!



#### **Member News**

**Bev Butula**, Davis & Keulthau, will be presenting to several different groups in the upcoming months. March 8<sup>th</sup>, she will be teaching a class entitled "Applied Research" at the Fox Valley Technical College for the *Executive Development Institute* which is part of their Criminal Justice Program. April 14th she will speak about effecting and efficient online searching to the Milwaukee Chapter of IAAP (International Association of Administrative Professionals) monthly meeting. Finally, on April 15<sup>th</sup>, Bev will present a morning session on emerging technologies at the Wisconsin Association of School Superintendent Assistants Spring Workshop in Madison.

Bev also authored two Inside Track Articles: <u>What do mobile technology, matrix codes, and the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau have in common?</u> and <u>Researching state courts? It's as easy as 1-2-3 when you visit the National Center for State Courts' website.</u>

**Carol Hassler**, Wisconsin State Law Library, presented "Social Networking for Judges" during the annual judicial education seminar on family law December 1 in Wisconsin Dells.

**Pam Noyd,** Foley & Larder, LLP, authored "Finding Balance: Choosing Between Print and Electronic Resources" in the November/December issue of West's *Law Librarians in the New Millennium*.

**Connie Von Der Heide**, Wisconsin State Law Library, presented "Researching Wisconsin Legislative History: Sources and Strategies" during a recent State Bar of Wisconsin all-day CLE seminar, *Wisconsin Legislative History and Intent: Fact or Fiction?* The seminar was held live and via webcast on December 10, and by webcast replay on December 21.

**Jenny Zook,** University of Wisconsin Law Library, authored the blog post, <u>Madison in Protest: a law librarian's perspective</u>, on the AALL Spectrum blog.

**Carol Bannen**, Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren sc, and **Emily Koss**, Michael Best & Friedrich, will participate in LexisNexis' Advanced Management for Private Law Librarians (AMPLL) Conference on April 8-10<sup>th</sup> in Dallas, TX.

#### **Guess Who?**

This issue, we are a debuting a new feature, "Guess Who?" In each newsletter, we will feature three facts about an LLAW member. If you think you know who this person is, e-mail <u>Emily Koss</u> with your guess. The person who guesses correctly, or a randomly selected individual if there are multiple correct entries, will win a \$10 gift card to Barnes & Noble! **All entries are due April 15**. The winner will be announced in the summer issue of *LLAW Briefs*. Good luck!

- 1. "My all-time favorite band is Def Leppard. I have seen them in concert 12 times."
- 2. "My great-grandpa bootlegged for Al Capone and spent time in a monastery to elude the police."
- 3. "My favorite animated movie is *The Secret of Nimh.*"

(Member News continues next page)

### Member News

(Continued from page 4)

### **LLAW Wins AALL Professional Development Award**

The LLAW Educational Institute Committee is pleased to announce that LLAW has won the AALL Professional Development Award for a One-Time Program, for The Strength of Change which was held on October 8, 2010. The award will be presented to LLAW at this summer's AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia.



#### Please Welcome Our New Members:

**Andrea Alexander** is a student in the Master's of Information program at the University of Michigan, where she works in the law library's faculty services department. A 2005 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, she hopes to return to Wisconsin after completing her graduate program in December 2011. In her free time, Andrea enjoys baking, yoga, and watching Big Ten sports.

**Jennifer Grieve** has joined Marquette University's Eckstein Law Library as a Part-Time Reference Librarian and the Milwaukee Legal Resource Center as Branch Associate. Jennifer graduated from Marquette Law School in 2010 and is currently completing her MLIS degree at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. In her free time, she enjoys trail running, swimming and reading.

**Peter Kersten** is a student at the UW-Milwaukee SOIS.

**Devin Rogers** is a Library Assistant at the Wisconsin State Law Library and is currently working towards her Master's degree in Library and Information Studies at UW-Madison SLIS. In her free time she enjoys biking, backpacking, reading and spending time with her husband.

### A Snapshot of Law and Politics in Syria

Diane Duffey, Habash Habash & Rottier

If you visit Syria -- officially the Syrian Arab Republic -- which is nestled in the midst of Turkey, Lebanon, the Mediterranean Sea, Jordan and Iraq, you can't help but notice that the picture of President Bashar Al-Assad is ubiquitous: in shops, in restaurants, even as a decal on car windows. Although he abandoned a career in ophthalmology to take over the presidency when his father died in 2000 (as opposed to truly being democratically elected), Bashar is less of a dictator than his father was and is better for the country, according to some Syrians. They say that Bashar has never mandated that his picture be displayed and even discouraged it; however many citizens still do display it, apparently because they actually do like him -- even if they did not exactly elect him to the presidency. The current upheaval in several Middle Eastern countries seems not to have affected Syria...yet. A "day of rage" scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> in Damascus failed to attract protesters. The security forces who were present that day may have helped to deter them as well.



(Above) The entrance to the courthouse, with a large poster of Bashar Al-Assad, the Syrian President.

(Right) Refrigerator magnet of Bashar Al-Assad, and "I Heart Bashar" pin.

All photos by Diane Duffey



(Above) The courthouse in Damascus, Syria. Syria's court system is based on a combination of French and Ottoman civil law; Islamic law is used in the family court system.



## **Recommended Readings**

Cindy May, University of Wisconsin Law Library

Ambrogi, Robert J. "Crowdsourcing the Law." <u>Law Technology News</u> 17(8):38-39 (August 2010)

Two new websites are reviewed in this article. Spindle Law is building a treatise based on the collective knowledge of its users by organizing the law into a tree, with each branch leading to evernarrowing branches. Judgepedia taps user knowledge to build an encyclopedic reference about U.S. courts and judges.

Butula, Bev. "Researching State Courts? It's as Easy as 1-2-3 When You Visit the National Center for State Courts' Website." Inside Track (March 2, 2011) http://bit.ly/gpMxRW

Engard, Nicole C. "Open Source Tools for Tutorials." <u>LLRX</u> (December 19, 2010) http://www.llrx.com/features/opensourcetutorialtools.htm

Hellyer, Paul. "Research at Your Own Risk." <u>AALL Spectrum</u> 15(4):18-19 (February 2011)

Law librarian Paul Hellyer outlines problems with free online statutory codes, including lack of currency, poor search features, no authentication, and technical problems. Be sure to note that Wisconsin is one of only three states he singles out for offering the best online statutory codes.

Newman, Mary Sheridan; Darling, A. Kelley; and Halvorsen, Cheryl. "Here a Docket, There a Docket: Part II." <u>Legal Information Alert</u> 29(5):1, 3-5 (2010)

In Part I of this survey, published in this year's issue no. 2, the authors covered PACER, LexisNexis CourtLink, and Westlaw CourtExpress. Here they analyze two relatively new services: CourtTrax and Bloomberg Law. They end with a short list of free or low-cost docket providers.

Zillman, Marcus P. "Deep Web Research 2011." <u>LLRX</u> (February 6, 2011) http://www.llrx.com/features/deepweb2011.htm

For the full list of recommended readings, click here.



# **AALL Announcements**

### **Unraveling the Mysteries of the Law Firm Marketing Department**

How much do you know about the marketing department in your firm? What does your chief marketing officer (CMO) envision as the biggest challenges and opportunities in this tough business climate? And most importantly for you, what is your role in helping your firm win new business and sustain longstanding and profitable client relationships?

In this installment of the Private Law Libraries (PLL) Change as Action Summit, you will hear from Joe Calve and Kelly Brown of Morrison & Foerster. Calve is MoFo's chief marketing officer, and Brown is the director of client relations. For the past year, the MoFo Research and Intelligence Group (the library) has reported to Calve and Brown in the Marketing Department. Calve and Brown bring a deep understanding of the capabilities of the MoFo Research and Intelligence team, and they are in a unique position to share their thoughts about how libraries can position themselves to become active participants in the practices of their firms by providing research at the highest level, both for business development and for client work.

This program will be videotaped and posted on the PLL website and will be available for free beginning on March 28 on AALL2go. It can be viewed by individual members or by groups. You may want to suggest that your chapter or SIS plan an educational program around the video. For example, tap a marketing director from a local firm to attend a brown bag lunch and watch the video with you; then, follow-up with a Q&A session.

This is the third in a series of five programs moderated by PLL members to provide a primer in law firm management from the view point of firm managers and administrators. The series is part of a two year program undertaken by the <a href="Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section (PLL-SIS)">Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section (PLL-SIS)</a> of AALL. The goal is to identify significant changes taking place in the legal world, to understand how these changes provide opportunities for assuming leadership roles, and to develop concrete plans for librarians to become leaders within their organizations. The culmination of these efforts, the Change as Action Summit, will take place in Philadelphia on July 23.

(AALL2go link; http://www.softconference.com/aall/; PLL link; http://www.aallnet.org/sis/pllsis/)

## Save the Date: April 28 AALL Webinar on Library Technology

The Private Law Libraries Special Interest Section will host AALL's April webinar, Library and Technology: Finding Common Ground on April 28 at 11 a.m. Central Standard Time. Check the <u>AALL Calendar of Events</u> for more details to come.

(Calendar of Events link: http://www.aallnet.org/calendar/)



# **AALL Announcements**

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# Get a Free Year of AALL Membership with Nonmember Annual Meeting Registration

AALL offers nonmembers a complimentary one-year membership when they register for the <u>AALL Annual Meeting and Conference</u>, to be held July 23-26 in Philadelphia. The membership includes:

- Career resources, such as the online Career Center and continuing education to help you learn new skills to advance in your career
- Access to specialized information created just for law librarians, such as the *Biennial Salary Survey* and the Price Index for Legal Publications
- Subscriptions to the monthly magazine, *AALL Spectrum*, and quarterly journal, *Law Library Journal*, to help you keep up on the latest trends in law librarianship
- The opportunity to network and connect with other law librarians from across the country who share similar interests
  and are facing the same challenges Discounted rates on all AALL products and services, such as publications,
  webinars, and online job postings

<u>Annual Meeting registration is now open.</u> Register by June 1 at the early bird rate and save \$100. Be sure to take advantage of this special offer for nonmembers.

# Renew Your AALL Membership Early for a Chance to Win a Free 2011 AALL Annual Meeting Registration

In March, AALL dues invoices for 2011-2012 will mail out to all library directors for their institutionally paid memberships and to all other individual members. The deadline for membership renewal is May 31.

When you renew early—by May 1—you will be entered in a drawing for a free 2011 AALL Annual Meeting and Conference registration. If you renew on time—by May 31—you'll be entered in a drawing for a free AALL webinar of your choice in 2011-2012. Following is the 2011 membership renewal schedule:

- March: First dues invoices mailed out.
- May: Second dues invoices mailed out.
- June: Final dues invoices mailed out.
- July: Expiration notices e-mailed to all members—individuals and those paid by institutions.
- August 1: Expired members deleted from the AALL membership database and access to the AALLNET Members
  Only Section and Law Library Journal and AALL Spectrum subscriptions discontinued.

For more information or to renew your membership online, view the <u>application form</u> on AALLNET. If you have any questions about your membership renewal, contact AALL Headquarters at <u>membership@aall.org</u> or 312/205-8022.

(Application form link: http://www.aallnet.org/about/join.asp)

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# **AALL Announcements**

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### AALL2go Pick of the Month

AALL's Continuing Professional Education Committee presents the AALL2go pick of the month: Web 2.0 Challenge.

Need a refresher on blogs or RSS? New to creating wikis? Want to know what colleagues are saying about the value of social networking for your library? AALL2go offers you solutions.

The AALL <u>Computing Services Special Interest Section (CS-SIS)</u>'s Web 2.0 Challenge is an online course for law librarians about social media and how to use it in their libraries. It is a comprehensive and social learning opportunity designed for law librarians based on hands-on use of these technologies.

Each of the five sessions includes:

- An introduction to the topic and suggested learning outcomes for the week
- A screen cast explaining the technology with step-by-step instructions on its use
- Links for further learning
- Examples of libraries/librarians using the featured tool

An assignment with activities designed to give you hands-on experience with each tool

Whether you're just browsing some of the articles listed or you're looking for additional ideas for a particular social networking solution, you have the flexibility to decide how much or how little information meets your needs. To follow along with the course, log in as a guest. (Guests may access most course content, but may not contribute to the site.)

Find this and more than 80 other free continuing education programs and webinars for AALL members on AALL2go!



### **Unleash Your Inner Leader October 28-29**

New law librarians in the early stages of your career—achieve your leadership potential by attending the **2011 AALL Leadership Academy**, **October 28-29 in the Chicago area**. Designed as an intensive learning experience aimed at growing and developing leadership skills, the academy program will help you discover how to maximize your personal leadership style while connecting with other legal information professionals.

The program will feature speakers Gail Johnson and Pam Parr. Johnson is a widely regarded leadership and communications expert and holds a Master of Arts in Communication Studies. Parr has extensive business management and customer service expertise. They have conducted many leadership programs for library organizations and will speak at the 2011 American Library Association Annual Conference.

The application period will start April 1, and applications will be due by June 30. Watch for more details coming soon.

# **LLAW Meeting Minutes and Reports**

Minutes and committee reports are now available as PDFs via the links below.

- 2009-2010 Second Quarterly Board Meeting, November 17, 2010, Video Conference, Foley & Lardner
- 2010-2011 Second Quarterly Business Meeting, November 30, 2010, Hi-Way Harry's, Johnson Creek, WI
- 2010-2011 Third Quarterly Board Meeting, February 15, 2011, Video Conference, Foley & Lardner
- 2010-2011 Third Quarterly Business Meeting, February 22, 2011, Video Conference, Foley & Lardner
- LLAW Statement of Accounts—as of February 22, 2011

#### **Grants Available**

Are you looking to update your skills or get some new ideas? How about a chance to network with colleagues from across the country, learning the latest best practices at the AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia this July? LLAW offers grants in support of this and other ongoing educational activities. For more information, including easy application instructions, visit <a href="https://www.aallnet.org/chapter/llaw/grants/index.htm">www.aallnet.org/chapter/llaw/grants/index.htm</a>.

Deadline for AALL Annual Meeting grant applications is Friday, April 15, 2011.



## **Events Calendar**

2011					
June 12-15, 2011	SLA Meeting, Philadelphia, PA				
July 23-26, 2011	AALL Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA				
October 28-29, 2011	AALL Leadership Academy, Oakbrook, IL				
Future AALL Annual Meetings July 21-24, 2012 Boston, MA July 13-16, 2013 Seattle, WA					
<u>Future SLA Meetings</u> July 15-18, 2012 Chicago, IL June 9-12, 2013 San Diego, CA					

The deadline for submitting articles for the next

LLAW BRIEFS
is
June 1, 2011

Submit articles to emkoss@michaelbest.com



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We're on the web www.aallnet.org/chapter/llaw/